



GOVERNOR'S STATE WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD

State of Montana

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Brian Schweitzer, Governor

Issue 15

June 2006

SWIB Certifies First Four One-Stops!

by Chris Wilhelm

The SWIB met June 9, 2006 and certified its first four one-stop systems. Commissioner Kelly and Chairman Miles presented plaques to the new one-stops recognizing their "effective community partnerships and continuous improvement in the workforce system."

Each one-stop had representatives in attendance. Accepting plaques for the one-stop systems were:

- Capitol Area Workforce System: Roxanne Bullard and Dave Morey;
- Missoula / Mineral Area Workforce System: Wolf Ametsbichler;

- South Central JobLINC One-Stop Center: Ginger Shepherd, Sara Fox, Becky Riedl, and Tom Frisby;
- Southwest Montana Workforce System: Mary Berg

Your one-stop could be certified next—submit your business plan today!

Pictures of the presentations are on page four of this newsletter.

This is an exciting time! SWIB staff would like to

encourage you to visit one of the certified one-stops in your community. Each one-stop meets the same certification requirements, but every one-stop has a unique business plan and combination of services provided.

Commissioner Kelly and the SWIB have set a goal to have ten new one-stop systems in place by the end of the year. Certification will continue throughout the year. If you have any questions, please contact SWIB staff at 406-444-1620.

Way to go!+

Youth Council

by Chris Wilhelm

WIA law requires local boards to have youth councils. When the SWIB took responsibility for the local boards, the youth council requirement was inherited. Chairman Miles worked with staff to identify and appoint council members.

The Youth Council had their first meeting May

23, 2006. They had a good turnout. Everyone is very excited to be a part of the Council and get to work on the issues facing the youth in our state.

The Council received reports on the History of WIA and SWIB, the State Youth Forum, and Adult Basic Education. Members are in the

process of developing their mission statement and goals. Their next meeting is scheduled August 8, 2006.+



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Upcoming Events:

June 27, 2006
Executive Committee Conference Call
2:00 p.m.
1st Floor Conference Room
Walt Sullivan Bldg
Helena, MT

July 19, 2006
Healthcare Taskforce
10:00 a.m.
Capitol Bldg, Room 172
Helena, MT

July 11–13
Workforce Innovations 2006 Annual Conference
Anaheim, CA

August 8, 2006
Youth Council
Time TBD
Capitol Bldg, Room 152
Helena, MT

August 31, 2006
Labor Day Report
Time and Location TBD
Helena, MT

August 31, 2006
Apprenticeship Advisory Committee
Time TBD
Capitol Bldg,
Helena, MT

August 31, 2006
Economic Development Committee
Time TBD
Capitol Bldg
Helena, MT

Aug 31, and Sept 1, 2006
SWIB
Time TBD
Capitol Bldg, Room 317
Helena, MT

Committee Updates

by Chris Wilhelm

The Executive Committee met April 20, 2006. The committee took action to form the Healthcare Taskforce, approve the Statewide MOU for One-Stop Services, adopt the revised Operating Procedures, and change the date of the next SWIB meeting.

The One-Stop Development Committee met June 7, 2006 by conference call. Action was taken to recommend four one-stops for certification by the SWIB. They also recommended the SWIB approve the revised general definitions for the One-Stop System, and recommended statewide use and endorsement of the JobLINC logo.

The remaining three committees met on June

8, 2006.

The Apprenticeship Committee discussed:

- Status of the Lineman's College in Butte;
- Promotion and Marketing of the Apprenticeship and Training Program; and projects for their next meeting.

The committee took action to recommend the SWIB approve an Apprenticeship MOU, and to have Arlene Parisot present it to the Board of Regents for their endorsement.

The Economic Development Committee received information on:

- recent developments in the Department of Commerce;
- Healthcare Taskforce;
- Availability of H-1B Grants;

- The BEAR Program; and
- The Montana Arts Council.

The committee discussed future tours they would like to take, and projects for their next meeting.

The committee took no action at this meeting.

The Workforce System Committee discussed:

- Conferencing Capabilities;
- WIA Incentive Dollars;
- Endorsement of the WIA Statewide Policy Manual;
- Possible Waiver Request for USDOL; and
- Snapshot Document.

The committee took no action at this meeting.

Detailed minutes are available on the SWIB website at the link in the header on Page 1.⁺

New Service Provider Agreements: As you know, USDOL agreed to allow the WIA Unit to continue working with all the current providers due to its special circumstances with the change in structure mid-year. The WIA Unit has started working to get new provider agreements in place for PY06 (July 1, 2006 – June 30, 2007).

Service providers for PY07 will be awarded through an RFP process next Spring.

WIA Unit Staffing: The WIA Unit has had a shift in duties to better manage its expanded role in technical assistance and monitoring. Suzanne Ferguson has been assigned as the overall coordinator of all

monitoring and technical assistance. Kathy Yankoff has assumed the Program Manager duties for Dislocated Worker programs formerly handled by Suzanne. Kathy will continue as the interim WIA Unit Supervisor until Pam Watson assumes that position full time.⁺

State Workforce Investment Board Members

Dan Miles, Chair

Marty Copps, Vice Chair

Evan Barrett

John Beaudry

Arlene Becker

Dave Crum

Thomas Curry

Michael DesRosier

Georgia Gibbs-Atkinson

Michael Grove

Kirk Hammerquist

Jacquie Helt

Llew Jones

Julie Jordan

Keith Kelly

Maureen Kenneally

Lane Larson

Robbe Lindsay

Thomas McKenna

Jody Messinger

Joan Miles

Rodney Miller

Michael O'Neill

Arlene Parisot

Gary Perry

Tony Preite

John Prinkki

Gail Richardson

Jeff Rupp

Fred Sargeson

Alan Skari

Karen Sullivan

Teresa Wall-McDonald

Linda Woods

Staff:

Pam Watson, Director

Leisa Smith, Director

Chris Wilhelm, Program Spec.

Jessica Snyder, Admin. Asst.

Mark Maki, Director of Apprenticeship and Training

SWIB Welcomes New Director

by Chris Wilhelm



SWIB
welcomes
their new
Director,
Leisa Smith.

Leisa spent the last ten years working for Career Training Institute (CTI) in Helena. She was the WIA Adult and Displaced Homemakers Program Director, Assistant to the WIA Youth Program and Training Department, and managed several

employment and training pilot grants.

In addition to her tenure at CTI, Leisa has instructed at several colleges in Montana, Washington, North Dakota, and Oregon. Leisa received an MS in Communication Studies from the University of Oregon, and a BA in Theatre Arts from Carroll College.

Residing in Helena, Leisa spends her time engaged

in community youth activities, theatre arts, outdoor recreation and ranching activities.

The qualities and skills Leisa brings make her a superb asset. She will be working with Pam as she transitions into her new position.

Staff and SWIB Members are excited to work with Leisa. Welcome!+



Healthcare Taskforce

by Chris Wilhelm

The Healthcare Taskforce was formed by the Executive Committee based on urgent health care issues identified by the Economic Development Committee. The taskforce will work over the summer to identify specific shortages, causes and needs. They will then recommend solutions to the SWIB by September. Karen Sullivan was appointed as Chair for the taskforce.

The Healthcare Taskforce held their first meeting

June 16, 2006 by conference call. The taskforce reviewed the many documents used to identify the issues.

They identified additional needed information that would be obtained by taskforce members, SWIB staff, and others. The obtained information will be compiled onto one document by SWIB staff.

This meeting was full of information, and a lot was accomplished. We've got a long way to go, and a

short time to get there (wasn't there a song something like this?), but the Healthcare Taskforce is on its way. Thanks for a great meeting!!

Congratulations to the Healthcare Taskforce members: Karen Sullivan, Chair; Lisa Addington; Beverly Barnhart; Mike Downing, DDS; Deb Matteucci; LeeAnna Muzquiz, MD; Wendy Palmer; Scot Mitchell; Cindy Stergar; and Pat Wise.+



Jobs for Montana Graduates (JMG) began in 1990 as a solution to the dropout rates experienced in Montana's high schools. Today, JMG supports a network of 39 high schools and 2 out of school programs offering 794 students the opportunity for future career development by focusing on staying in school and finding a career path suited to their interests and abilities.

JMG students graduate prepared for life after high school by raising their expectations of themselves, investigating and selecting realistic career goals, learning and teaching leadership and teamwork skills, and acquiring workplace values and employability skills.

JMG is one of the most effective dropout prevention programs in Montana for the last 16 years. The graduation rate for 2005 JMG seniors was 96%, which resulted in JMG receiving a national award for exceeding all benchmarks established by its parent, Jobs for America's Graduates (JAG).

Drea Brown, State Director of JMG, and her staff welcome comments and questions. Contact us at 406/444-0978.

Certified One-Stop Photos



Capitol Area Workforce System



Missoula / Mineral Area Workforce System



South Central JobLINC One-Stop Center



Southwest Montana Workforce System



Congratulations to all four One-Stops!